

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Summary of the Examiner's Actions

The examiner rejected Claims 1, 4 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,224,037 ("the '037 patent"), issued to Jones *et al.* Applicant acknowledges the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The examiner objected to Claim 9 as being upon a rejected base claim and indicated that 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates such indication.

The examiner allowed Claims 3, 6, 11, 12, 14 and 15. Applicant appreciates such indication.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The examiner rejected Claims 1, 4 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,224,037 ("the '037 patent"), issued to Jones *et al.* Applicant has cancelled Claims 1, 4 and 13. Accordingly, the examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been traversed.

Claim Objections

The examiner objected to Claim 9 as being upon a rejected base claim and indicated that 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 9 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the objection of the examiner has been traversed.

Summary

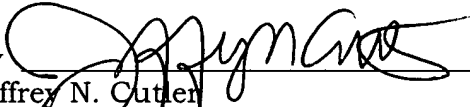
In view of the representation of Claim 9 as new Claim 15, and the cancellation of Claims 1, 4 and 13, without prejudice, it is believed that the above-identified patent application is in a condition for the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Such action by the examiner is respectfully requested. If, however, the examiner is of the opinion that

any of the drawings or other portions of the application are still not allowable, it will be appreciated if the examiner will telephone the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of the application.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1910.

Respectfully submitted,

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